

## **RANDOMISED CONTROL TRIAL FEASIBILITY STUDY ON THE USE OF MEDICAL GRADE HONEY FOLLOWING MICROVASCULAR FREE TISSUE TRANSFER TO REDUCE THE INCIDENCE OF WOUND INFECTION**

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**Aim:** To assess the feasibility of using *Leptospermum* honey in a randomised trial aimed at reducing the incidence of wound infection following microvascular free tissue reconstruction for head and neck cancer.

**Methods:** At date of closure 50 patients were randomised, in a single centre, open-label randomised controlled trial in which patients received either conventional wound treatment or had medical grade honey applied to their wounds. Data were collected between February 2008 and terminated at the end of February 2009. To date one patient remains in the follow-up stage.

**Results:** 73 patients were eligible (68.5%), 10 have refused and 13 have been missed at either the recruitment or randomisation stage.

**Discussion:** Final patient data will be collected 30.3.09 and data analysis will take place on the 9.4.09. In the presentation final data will be presented and include feasibility

- a) Patients willingness to be recruited to the study
- b) Acceptability of the honey application to both patients and nursing staff
- c) Data collection – appropriateness of timing and sites of swabs
- d) Completeness of data
- e) Statistical analysis of the pilot data to give an indication for a power calculation and factors related to outcome.